

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6573

To create an Office of Domestic Product Promotion within the Department of Commerce to promote the sale of United States products.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 22, 2008

Ms. SUTTON (for herself, Mr. CONYERS, Ms. HIRONO, Mr. BUTTERFIELD, Mr. JONES of North Carolina, Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas, Mr. WILSON of Ohio, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, and Mr. HARE) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To create an Office of Domestic Product Promotion within the Department of Commerce to promote the sale of United States products.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Office of Domestic
5 Product Promotion Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

1 (1) In 2007, the United States trade deficit for
2 goods reached \$815 billion.

3 (2) In March 2005, manufacturing employment
4 in the United States fell to 14.3 million. This num-
5 ber is lower than it was in 1945, when the popu-
6 lation of the United States was more than 50 per-
7 cent less.

8 (3) In 2006, United States manufacturing's
9 share of the Gross Domestic Product was approxi-
10 mately half what it was in 1950.

11 (4) The earnings of United States manufac-
12 turing workers exceed the earnings of workers in the
13 service and other sectors.

14 (5) Each United States manufacturing job cre-
15 ates as many as four related jobs.

16 (6) The promotion of domestically produced
17 goods is beneficial for United States workers and the
18 United States economy.

19 **SEC. 3. DEFINITION.**

20 In this Act the term “domestic product” means a
21 product—

22 (1) that is manufactured or produced in the
23 United States; and

24 (2) at least 65 percent of the cost of the arti-
25 cles, materials, or supplies of which are grown,

1 mined, produced, or manufactured in the United
2 States.

3 **SEC. 4. OFFICE OF DOMESTIC PRODUCT PROMOTION.**

4 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby established
5 within the Department of Commerce an Office of Domes-
6 tic Product Promotion (hereinafter referred to in this Act
7 as the “Office”).

8 (b) DUTIES.—The Office shall—

9 (1) work with United States businesses to pro-
10 mote domestic products;

11 (2) provide information and advice to United
12 States businesses on benefits and incentives avail-
13 able to United States businesses for producing do-
14 mestic products, including the award of Federal pro-
15 curement contracts and Federal and State tax bene-
16 fits;

17 (3) establish a comprehensive database of busi-
18 nesses that use, sell, or would prefer to use or sell,
19 domestic products, and make the information in
20 such database available to the public, including on a
21 website that a user can sort and search by the State,
22 county, city, or congressional district of a business,
23 as well as by product type;

24 (4) develop, with input from private businesses,
25 non-profit businesses, labor organizations, academic

1 institutions, and other entities, tools and ideas on
2 how to promote domestic products; and

3 (5) coordinate with State governments to fur-
4 ther the Office's performance of its duties.

5 **SEC. 5. COMPOSITION OF THE OFFICE.**

6 (a) NATIONAL DIRECTOR.—

7 (1) SELECTION.—The Office shall be headed by
8 a National Director, who shall be appointed by the
9 President, by and with the advice of the Senate.

10 (2) TERM.—The National Director shall serve a
11 term of 5 years. A National Director whose term has
12 expired may continue to serve until the date on
13 which a successor takes office.

14 (3) COMPENSATION.—The National Director
15 shall be compensated at the rate provided for level
16 V of the Executive Schedule under section 5316 of
17 title 5, United States Code.

18 (b) STAFF.—The National Director shall appoint,
19 terminate, and fix the compensation of such employees of
20 the Office as the National Director considers necessary to
21 carry out the functions of the Office, except that no rate
22 of pay fixed under this subsection may exceed the equiva-
23 lent of the rate provided for level V of the Executive
24 Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United States
25 Code.

1 **SEC. 6. REGIONAL OFFICES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Office shall have six regional
3 offices, each headed by a regional director, and one re-
4 gional office shall be located within each of the following
5 six regions:

6 (1) Region 1, consisting of Ohio, Pennsylvania,
7 Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, and West Vir-
8 ginia.

9 (2) Region 2, consisting of the District of Co-
10 lumbia, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massa-
11 chusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New
12 Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland.

13 (3) Region 3, consisting of Virginia, North
14 Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Flor-
15 ida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Arkansas.

16 (4) Region 4, consisting of California, Oregon,
17 Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Alaska, and
18 Hawaii.

19 (5) Region 5, consisting of Iowa, Missouri,
20 North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas,
21 Oklahoma, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

22 (6) Region 6, consisting of Texas, Nevada, New
23 Mexico, Arizona, Utah, and Colorado.

24 (b) DUTIES.—The regional offices shall—

25 (1) support the Office in performing the Of-
26 fice's duties; and

1 (2) concentrate on issues affecting the pro-
2 motion of domestic products produced in the region
3 in which the regional office is located.

4 (c) REGIONAL DIRECTOR AND STAFF.—

5 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The National Director
6 shall appoint, terminate, and fix the compensation of
7 each regional director, except that no rate of pay
8 fixed under this paragraph may exceed the equiva-
9 lent of the rate provided for level V of the Executive
10 Schedule under section 5316 of title 5, United
11 States Code.

12 (2) QUALIFICATIONS.—Each regional director
13 shall have knowledge of the domestic products pro-
14 duced in the region in which the regional office is lo-
15 cated and region-specific issues related to the pro-
16 motion of the region’s domestic products.

17 (3) REGIONAL OFFICE STAFF.—Each regional
18 director shall, with the approval of the National Di-
19 rector, appoint, terminate, and fix the compensation
20 of such additional employees of the regional office as
21 the regional director considers necessary to carry out
22 the functions of the regional office, except that no
23 rate of pay fixed under this paragraph may exceed
24 the equivalent of the rate provided for level V of the

1 Executive Schedule under section 5316 of title 5,
2 United States Code.

3 (d) REGIONAL CONVENTIONS.—Each regional office
4 shall hold an annual convention to help connect United
5 States businesses producing domestic products with con-
6 sumers who want to work with domestic products, address
7 domestic product production issues, and generate ideas on
8 how to promote domestic products.

9 **SEC. 7. REPORTS TO THE PRESIDENT AND THE CONGRESS.**

10 The National Director and the Secretary of Com-
11 merce shall submit an annual report to the President and
12 the Congress on the operation of the Office, including rec-
13 ommendations on strategies for promoting domestic prod-
14 ucts.

15 **SEC. 8. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATION.**

16 There are authorized to be appropriated such sums
17 as may be necessary to carry out this Act.

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